

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Final Office Action dated February 6, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 6, 2004. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

In the specification, paragraph [0007] has been amended to correct a typographical error. In the claims, Applicants have amended claims 6, 15, 16, 25, and 26 as to matters of form. Applicants have amended claims 9, 10, 22, and 23 to correct typographical errors. Applicants have amended claim 17 to more clearly illustrate the claimed subject matter. Applicants submit that the changes made herein do not introduce new matter.

Claims 6-23, 25, and 26 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 25 and 27-30 are rejected. Claims 27-30 have been canceled by Applicant. Claims 6-23 and 26 are indicated to be allowable by the Examiner.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph because it depends from canceled claim 24. The Examiner has indicated that claim 25 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claim 25 to depend from claim 11 rather than claim 24. Applicants submit that the changes made herein do not introduce new matter. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 25.

Claims 27, 29, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hoinkis* (U.S. Patent No. 6,146,517) in view of *Venkataman, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,093,966). Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hoinkis*, in view of *Lai, et al.* as applied to claims 27, 29 and 30 above, and further in view of *Ngan, et al.* (EP 0 867 525). Applicants have canceled claims 27-30. Thus, the rejection of claims 27-30 is moot.

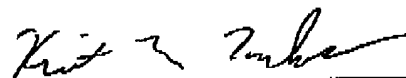
In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/2859.C1/CPI/COPPER/PJS

Having addressed all issues set out in the Final Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith M. Tackett
Registration No. 32,008
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant(s)